



STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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STATE SUPERINTENDENT
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Idaho State Department of Education
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SUPERINTENDENT LUNA APPOINTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR SMARTER BALANCED FIELD TEST

BOISE – Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna announced today he has appointed a committee of educators to work with the Idaho State Department of Education before, during and after the administration of the Smarter Balanced Field Test this spring.

Idaho is transitioning to a new test that is aligned to the higher Idaho Core Standards in mathematics and English language arts. The transition to a new test always takes time. In this case, Idaho has planned to phase in the new Smarter Balanced Assessment over three years. In Spring 2013, the state piloted the test in 124 schools. This spring, the state is field testing the new assessment in all of Idaho's public schools. Next year, the test will be fully implemented and scores will be given.

"I look forward to working with educators and school administrators in each region to identify challenges and find solutions before we fully transition to the Smarter Balanced Assessment in Idaho," Superintendent Luna said. "In working with educational stakeholders, I know that we all agree the Smarter Balanced Assessment is a better test and the best path forward, yet we face logistical challenges as this new test is implemented at the local level. I look forward to working closely with Idaho's educators to find solutions to these challenges."

The goal of the Field Test this spring is to "test the test" to ensure the test questions are fair, valid and reliable and to give all Idaho's public schools the opportunity to evaluate their technology and logistics at the local level before the test becomes fully operational next spring.

The Smarter Balanced Advisory Committee is made up of six superintendents, six principals, three test coordinators, and three teachers as well as a Special Education Director and a representative from the Idaho Education Technology Association. Superintendent Luna selected leaders in the Idaho Association of School Administrators, as well as school administrators who have been heavily involved in the development of Smarter Balanced Assessment, to serve on the Advisory Committee. In addition, the Idaho Education Association appointed teachers to serve on this Committee.

This Committee will meet before, during and after the Field Test to determine which questions and concerns need to be addressed going into the Field Test, what information is learned through the Field Test and to find solutions to any challenges that are identified.

The first meeting of the Smarter Balanced Advisory Committee is scheduled for 1 p.m. MT on Thursday, March 6 at the Idaho State Department of Education offices in Boise.

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Here is a list of the members of Idaho's Smarter Balanced Advisory Committee:

<u>Name</u>	<u>School or District</u>	<u>Title</u>
Mary Ann Ranells	Lakeland School District	Superintendent
Greg Bailey	Moscow School District	Superintendent
Don Coberly	Boise School District	Superintendent
Michele Capps	Murtaugh School District	Superintendent
Spencer Barzee	West Side School District	Superintendent
Alan Dunn	Sugar-Salem School District	Superintendent
John Cordell	St. Maries High School, St. Maries School District	Principal
Kelly Caldwell	Genesee School, Genesee School District	Principal
Don Keller	Sage International Charter School	Head of School
William Brulotte	Perrine Elementary School, Twin Falls School District	Principal
Sheryl Brockett	Century High School, Pocatello School District	Principal
Jeanne Johnson	Cloverdale Elementary School, Bonneville School District	Principal
Mike Nelson	Coeur d'Alene School District	Director, Curriculum and Assessment
Jackie Thomason	Joint School District No. 2 (Meridian)	Director, Assessment and Accountability
Chris Ledbetter	Soda Springs School District	Test Coordinator
Rachel Lyon	Troy Junior/Senior High, Troy School District	Teacher
Jolene Dockstader	Jerome Middle School, Jerome School District	Teacher
Cindy Wilson	Capital High School, Boise School District	Teacher
Ramona Lee	Weiser School District	Special Education Director
Will Goodman	Mountain Home School District	Director of Technology (<i>President of Idaho Education Technology Association</i>)

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